

**Notice of Allowability**

Application No.

09/996,506

Examiner

Janet M. Wilkens

Applicant(s)

JOHNSON, ROBERT E.

Art Unit

3637

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the after-final amendment filed 3/19/04.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-3, 5-9, 11, 12, 14-18, 20-22 and 28.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 28 November 2001 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some\* c) ☐ None of the:
    1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
    2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
    3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE**

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
  6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
    - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
      - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
    - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date 2
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date 5/12/04
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

### EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Daniel L Girdwood on May 12, 2004.

The application has been amended as follows:

In claim 1, line 3, "for movement" has been deleted and --moveable-- has been inserted before "between".

In claim 1, line 7, --and the body-supporting member-- has been inserted after "hood".

In claim 18, line 9, "for movement" has been deleted and --moveable-- has been inserted before "between".

In claim 18, line 10, "for automatic movement to" has been deleted.

Claim 19 has been canceled.

In claim 22, line 4, --a link mechanism and-- has been inserted after "including".

In claim 22, lines 7-8, "for movement" has been deleted and --, the hood moveable-- has been inserted after "post".

In claim 22, line 11, --link mechanism and the-- has been inserted before "releasable".

In claim 22, line 12, "link-and-bias mechanism holds" has been deleted and -- link mechanism and latch hold-- has been inserted after the first appearing "the".

In claim 22, line 13, "is" has been deleted and --, link mechanism and latch are-- has been inserted after "hood".

In claim 22, line 13, --of the hood-- has been inserted after "movement".

In claim 28, line 3, --with respect to a framework-- has been inserted after "position".

In claim 28, line 4, --on the framework and-- has been inserted after "supported".

In claim 28, line 4, "for movement" has been deleted and --moveable-- has been inserted before "between".

In claim 28, line 12, --on the framework operably connected to the link-and-bias mechanism-- has been inserted after "latch".

In claim 28, line 12, --when latched-- has been inserted after "configured".

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: the allowable subject matter being the specific interconnections/interactions between the hood, link-and-bias mechanism, body-supporting member and latch of the hunting blind. For claims 1, 18, 22 and 28, the latch secures body-support member against the force of the link-and-bias mechanism so that the hood is maintained in its hiding/closed position. The link is automatically moveable to its released position when weight is put on the body-support member; however, the hood is not moved to its open position until the weight is taken off the body-supporting member.

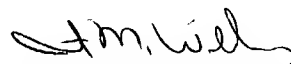
Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Janet M. Wilkens whose telephone number is (703) 308-2204. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Lanna Mai can be reached on (703) 308-2486. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Wilkens  
May 12, 2004

  
JANET M. WILKENS  
PRIMARY EXAMINER  
Art Unit 3637